

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 171

argument that you could make up, and none of the arguments is compelling, not one of them is compelling. This is an industry which can take care of itself. But I think some of my colleagues may be fearful of what this industry may do to them if they don't give them this break. If you are paying attention to the news that comes out, you will see where some television stations are making deals with certain hospitals, saying that, if you buy a certain amount of advertising time with us, when we are in our newscast mode and we're giving health information, we will make sure that somebody from your hospital is the one giving that health information. So, over here you buy time for advertising, but then you are raised to a higher level by making what you say be given the status of news. So they're double-dipping. These kinds of things are happening across the board because all of these operations are primarily interested in making money, even those who brag about their providing hard news, as they call it, are interested in making money. That is why they exist. They have investors, they have stockholders. And when they compete against each other during this period of sweeps, they do that to try to make the potential advertisers willing to pay more money for the advertising space they get on the network or the local stations or wherever the ads are going to be placed. Money is what this whole thing is about. We are dealing with profit-making, profit-seeking corporations.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This bill is not in the interest of the public; not one single member of the public not connected with one of these money-making enterprises will be benefited by LB 171. And remember, every time one person does not have to pay his or her taxes, somebody else has to. We've been scrambling around, talking about jump starting the rural economy, talking about keeping the property taxes low and all such discussions as that, then you're going to come in here and say, we're going to give Daddy Warbucks all of this money to the detriment of Little Orphan Annie. Little Orphan Annie is going to have to go out there and sell some aluminum cans and pay her fair share of...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.